METRO / A19 BUSINESS / B6 WORLD / A24 NEWS / A2 WORLD / A24

12 '3G' trains to boost LRT line 1 fleet

Cebu Asean summit drops plan to adopt single currency

Russia rejects extradition of suspects in murder by poison of ex-spy in UK

Davide grilled by Jinggoy, Tatad and judge dismissed for consulting dwarves

Nasa telescope sees black hole gulping remote star

Permanent evacuation of Mayon areas ordered

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. in Manila and Jah B. Bellen Inquirer Southern Luzon

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO HAS ORdered the "permanent evacuation" of people living at the foot of Mayon Volcano following the wide swath of death and destruction left by Supertyphoon "Reming."

Devastating torrents of mud and volcanic ash

PERMANENT/A6

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Thursday, December 7, 2006 ★★ 6 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 362 P18 website: www.inq7.net

P500-M Cebu convention center finally opens

By Vob Contreras

CEBU CITY—A VENUE ORIGINALLY PLANNED to be a sports arena formally opened here yesterday as the hub of the 12th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) Summit, where leaders of the 10-nation bloc hope to make fresh steps toward erasing borders and finding a common, level playing field.

P500-M CEBU/A17



CLOSE, OPEN convention center in Mandaue City officially opens on Wednesday—at least for press briefings. Most VIP meetings in the run-up to the two-day Asean summit starting Dec. 11 are held at the Shangri-La Mactan. A candlelight ceremony was to take place last night to highlight the inaugural rites of what had been originally built as a sports arena until the Asean chairmanship fell on the Philippines a year earlier than scheduled.

Church to fight Con-ass

El Shaddai, CBCP heads warn House

By Juliet Labog-Javellana and Christian V. Esguerra

HEAVYWEIGHTS ARE GEARING to oppose the Palace-House move to amend the 1987 Charter through a House-only constituent assembly (Con-ass).

Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, president of the influential Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, yesterday urged the faithful "to be vigilant, to express their opposition to Con-ass and to offer prayers for our government," and Bro. Mariano "Mike" Velarde, leader of the 4-million strong El Shaddai charismatic movement, called on all sectors to take part in a big protest rally planned for next week.

In a strongly worded statement titled "Watch and Pray for Self-Serving Representatives," Lag-

CHURCH/A6





PREPARING FOR THE WORST Police force blocks off a cause-oriented group rally on Osmena Boulevard on Wednesday, four days before the Asean summit even as a cute little girl all decked in her finery stares them down. A sniper (right) from the Special Action Force packs up a .50 cal. rifle after a dry run at the Cebu International Convention Center.

Villar: Senate ready to do battle on all fronts

By Michael Lim Ubac and Juliet Labog-Javellana

SENATE PRESIDENT MANUEL VILLAR yesterday served notice that the chamber was prepared to fight the House-only constituent assembly (Con-ass) on all fronts even as the House of Representatives was set to force a vote last night on House resolution calling for the convening of Con-ass.

The opposition had effectively derailed the timetable for Charter change (Cha-cha).

The original game plan was to pass House Resolution 1450 the other night and set the date for the commencement of the Con-ass on Monday so that senators would have a three-day notice before the joint assembly.

The minority, while greatly outnumbered by administration allies, had managed to delay the plan by raising a record number of points of order and parliamentary inquiries.

The extent of the delay depends on how long the minority would be able to hold its ground.

Villar convened a caucus of all senators at 5 p.m. to map out the action that the chamber would take to block the House-only Con-ass.

He said the House had to surmount three hurdles before it could have its way in scrapping the presidential sys-

VILLAR/A6

Delay in naming new Chief Justice boosts Con-ass bid

By Leila B. Salaverria

DEFERRING THE APPOINTMENT OF A NEW Chief Justice to replace Artemio Panganiban may benefit proponents of the Palace-backed constituent assembly (Con-ass) to amend the Charter, a highly placed source privy to Supreme Court matters said Tuesday night.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the subject, said a divided vote in the high court could stop the issuance of a temporary restraining order on a plebiscite that would approve the amendments to be proposed.

The House majority is bent on proposing a shift to the unicameral parliamentary form of

DELAY/A6

US CUSTODY

Palace: Gov't has no choice on Smith

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr., Nikko Dizon and Tarra V. Quismundo

THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT HAS no choice but to comply with the provisions of the Visiting Forces Agreement and hand over the American soldier convicted on Monday of raping a Filipino woman to the US Embassy in Manila, Malacañang said yesterday.

Rape victim "Nicole" claims she has been betrayed by her own country because it has agreed to Lance Cpl. Daniel Smith's plea to be returned to US custody.

In her second public appearance after the verdict was handed down on Monday, 23-year-old Nicole and her private lawyer Evalyn Ursua yesterday went to the Makati Regional Trial Court to oppose an urgent motion that Smith's lawyer filed on Tuesday to ask that the soldier be placed under US custody pending an appeal of his conviction.

At a briefing in Malacañang, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said what was in the provision was exact. "The Americans are right because they are going by Article 5 Paragraph 6 of the VFA," he said.

The provision cited by the embassy is

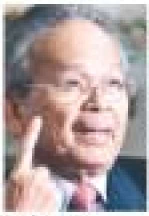
PALACE/A17



Bobo! Ho! Santas' laps are wet on by kids

NEW YORK—SAYING "HO, ho, ho" is practically a Christmas mantra, given the job woes that Santas face each day in shopping malls and stores, according to a survey released early this week.

BOBO! HO!/A6



PANGANIBAN

Justices hail Panganiban as Renaissance jurist

By Armand N. Nocum

SUPREME COURT JUSTICES YESTERDAY hailed Chief Justice Artemio V. Panganiban as a Renaissance jurist who steered the tribunal through one of the most trying times in the nation's history.

Panganiban, who retired yesterday upon reaching 70 and after serving 11 years on the bench, led the high court in striking down as unconstitutional several of President Macapagal-Arroyo's controversial acts.

These included the Arroyo administration's calibrated preemptive response policy toward protesters, Executive Order No. 464 that barred Cabinet and military officials from appearing in congressional hearings without Ms Arroyo's permission, and Presidential Proclamation No. 1017 which placed the entire country under a state of national emergency.

In their "Plaque of Acclamation," the justices cited Panganiban's "indomitable leadership of the court . . . when it heard and promptly decided an unprecedented number of landmark cases."

Panganiban, whom Ms Arroyo appointed as Chief Justice on Dec. 21 last year, cast the swing vote last month when the tribunal voted 8-7 in junking a petition by Ms Arroyo's allies to amend the Constitution through a people's initiative. A majority of the justices described the petition as a "grand deception" and "gigantic fraud."

Panganiban "leaves behind a Supreme

JUSTICES/A6

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONT PAGE

Erap allies jump on Davide

Former Chief Justice parries questions in Commission on Appointments grilling

By TJ Burgonio



DAVIDE

SEEKING CONFIRMATION FOR the post of permanent Philippine representative to the United Nations, Former Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. yesterday faced stiff opposition in the Commission on Appointments from former allies of President Joseph Estrada as well as a judge who claims to be communicating with dwarfs.

[illegible]

Dismissed

[illegible]

Pink of health

[illegible]

Vacuum of power

[illegible]

Melo probers find no military link to Bacolod killings

By Arnold H. Hosan

[illegible]



BMW 116i for P15,800 per month.*

BMW Philippines Corporation and Petron Corporation.
Proud partners of the Philippine Chairmanship of the 12th ASEAN Summit.

PETRON

Final version of poll automation bill hammered out

By TJ Burgonio

'Dagdag-bawas'

P2.6B for automation

Demonstrated capability

Transparency

American molester recaptured





Everest climbers head biggest batch of TOYM awardees



THE OUTSTANDING Young Men awardees pose with President Macapagal-Arroyo in Malacañang.

Temporary water interruption in Taguig, San Juan and Mandaluyong needed to upgrade facilities

Manila Water is currently upgrading its distribution lines and facilities to improve the distribution of water in the East Zone. We regret that we will need to have several temporary water supply interruptions to facilitate the faster completion of the improvement projects. The first cutoff will occur beginning 12:00 a.m. up to 3:00 a.m., Friday, December 8, 2006. Areas affected will be Signal Village, Upper Bicutan, FTI and Bagong Tanyag, all in Taguig. Meanwhile, another water supply interruption will also occur which will start 8:00 p.m., Thursday, December 7, 2006, up to 8:00 a.m., Friday, December 8. Affected areas will be: Barangays Corazon De Jesus, Pasadena, P. Cruz, Batis, Tibagan, Sta. Lucia in San Juan and Barangays Addition Hills, Kabayanan and Maytunas in Mandaluyong City.

Manila Water Company advises all residents of the said areas to store enough water prior to the scheduled interruptions to avoid inconvenience.

For the latest update, please call our Customer Call Center Hotline at 1627.

We don't just lay pipes; we improve lives.

Gov't to cut natural gas royalty

By Abigail L. Ho

BACOLOR TRAGEDY

Albay disaster brings back memories of lahar

By Tonette Orejas
Inquirer Central Luzon

Terrifying scenes

Common fate

Reaching out

STOP THE KILLINGS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES,
VOTE FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

eedtfip

STATEMENT OF THE
Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst - EED
(Church Development Service)
Philippine Partners' Task Force on Indigenous Peoples' Rights

WE COMMEND ...

WE REGRET ...

WE ARE SHOCKED AND OUTRAGED ...

WE NOTE ...

WE ARE GRATEFUL ...

WE DENOUNCE AND CONDEMN ...

On the occasion of the International Human Rights Day and the Second Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, we join the growing clamor for governments to uphold the human rights, equality, and dignity of indigenous peoples.

TURNOVER HITCH

No new Navy chief yet

No word from Palace

Not qualified

PAL offers free cargo space for Bicol relief goods







'We ran toward the mountain to save our lives'

Losses drown Legazpi businesses



Justices hail ...



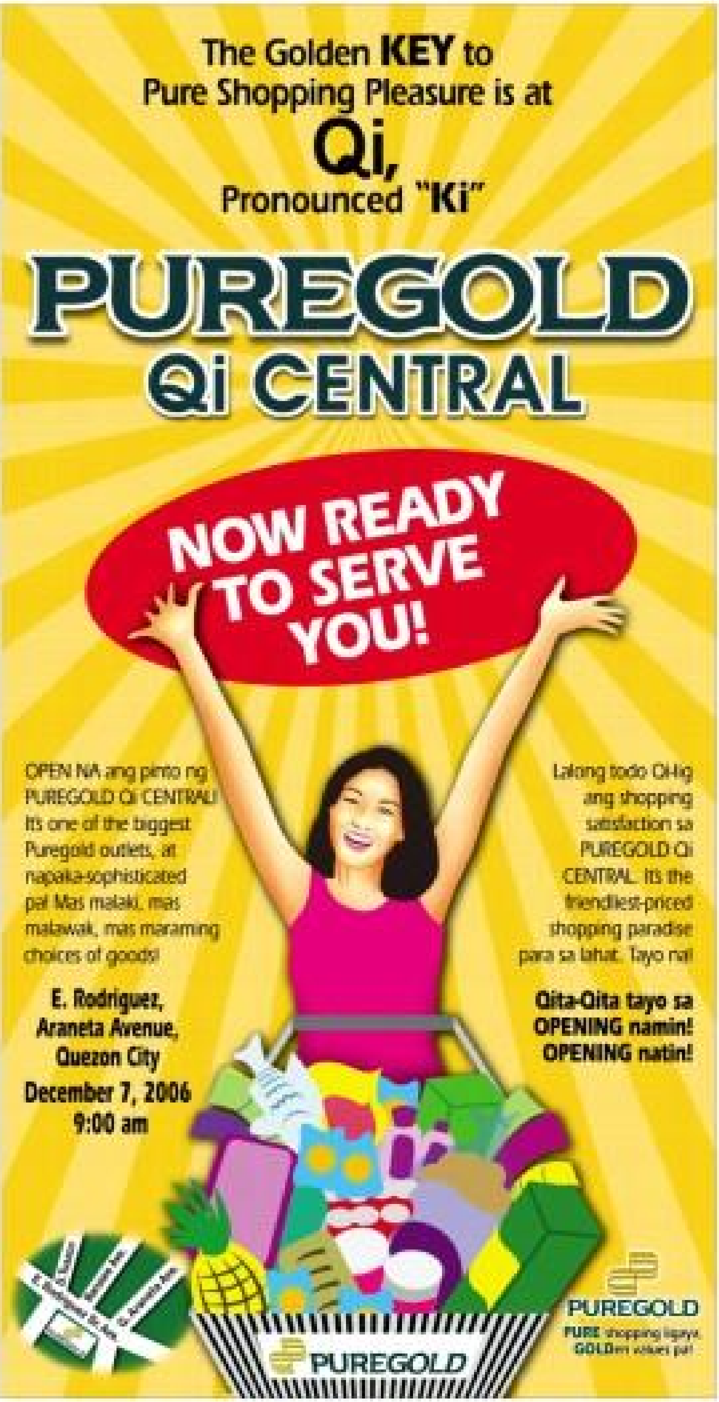
Permanent evacuation of Mayon areas ordered

Boho! Ho! Santas' laps are wet on by kids

DILG seeks US advice vs NPA rebs

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Coleman Oster
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UP TO 80% OFF ON SELECTED ITEMS!
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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Church to fight Con-ass; massive rallies set

Even Chavit

'Arrogance of numbers'

Haste questionable, suspicious

Reaching out to Velarde

Villar: Senate ready to do battle on all fronts

House Rule 15 changed

'Haste makes waste'

'Garapal'

Separate vote

To go or not to go

Man-to-man guarding

Delay in naming new Chief Justice boosts Con-ass bid

Palace expected to announce new Chief Justice last night

By Christine O. Avendaño

Failed nomination process

Acting Chief Justice

Technically correct

Albay solon hits gov't drift on population control

By Philip C. Tubeza

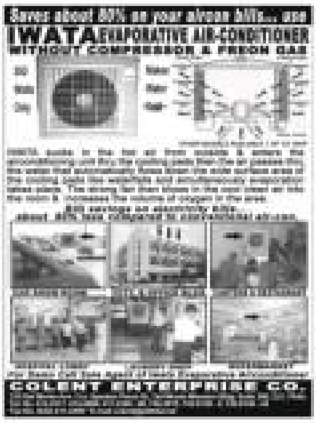


LAGMAN

Alano; 67







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Republic of the Philippines
PHILIPPINE RECLAMATION AUTHORITY
(Public Estates Authority)

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO REBID



BIR: Large taxpayers coughed up 15% more

Cynthia D. Balana

Asean heads for 'open skies'

Reuters

RP gains foothold as preferred hub for equipment makers

By Ronnel W. Domingo

Electronics sector

DSP needs







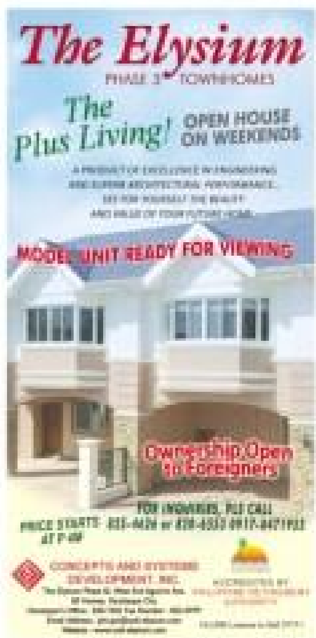
ANTIDOTE TO COUP

Go out and vote, soldiers urged

By Dona Pazzibugan

3 labor execs face axe





INQUIRER

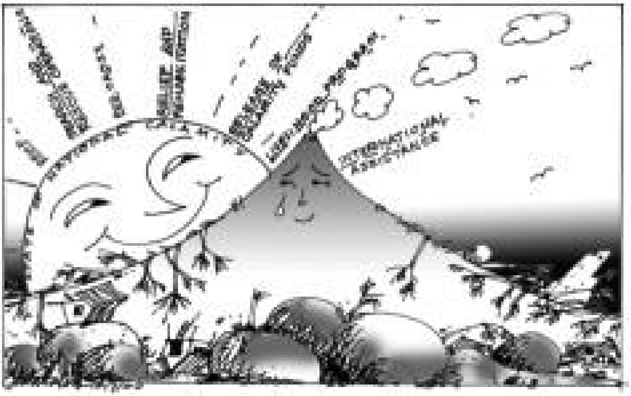
OPINION

'Company of idiots'

EDITORIAL

Coexistence

FOREIGN COMMENT



A hush-hush problem

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

Triumph

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Fe del Mundo: legend and icon

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan



'Puta man o santa man'

HUMAN FACE

Ma. Ceres P. Doyo



—Susan Brownmiller, "Against Our Will"

Nocturnal deliberations

THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III



Does it take a man to complete a woman?

YOUNG BLOOD

Shivonna Parmanand

Behold the new Blood

Real tragedies of the year

LETTERS

Clueless and incompetent secretary

'Noli,' 'Fili' books in National Library



Take a harder look at automated elections

Announcement of winners right after lotto draw not doable

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
TV GUIDE
Thursday, December 7, 2006



TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Across the NATION

MEGALOTTO 6/45

₱14,004,304.20

Abuses continue in Ecija war on Reds, Church leaders reveal

By Christian V. Esguerra

WHAT'S THE PRICE OF THROWING ONE'S SYMpathy behind communist rebels—at least to be suspected of it?

Armed Forces chief bares new plan vs NPA rebels

Batangas gov't exec suspended over time record



GLOOM

Parents and relatives of students who are believed to be buried after their dormitory collapsed sit behind candles in Legazpi City, Albay, one of the areas worst hit by Supertyphoon Reming.

NDF starts campaign to raise funds for victims of 'Reming'

Fall guys held in bishop's slay, says church leader

Planned centers for herbal research raise concerns on patent, plagiarism

INQUIRER Southern Luzon

A different 'bull run' in Nasugbu

By Marlon Alexander Luistro
Nasugbu, Batangas

WHY GO TO NAVARRE IN SPAIN TO get chased by bulls when you can experience the thrill in the Philippines?

'The church wishes that through the intercession of St. Francis Xavier, cows would be blessed by God and good quality beef may be produced'



THE TOWN modified the event by making papier-mâché or dummy bulls ... to chase people in the plaza.





History

Batangas beef

Beers

Carabao program boosts income of Cavite farmers

General Trias, Cavite

KNOWN FOR ITS "KESILYO" (white cheese) and rice fields, the town of General Trias in Cavite has successfully developed a new livelihood for farmers and exploring carabao-based dairy products.

A recipient of the bull loan program said his life had improved. He can now send his three children to college



A FARMER prepares the milk to create milk gelatin.

Increased income

Dairy cooperative

New pact allows RP nurses to work in 9 Asean countries



GEARING UP FOR THE REAL THING

Migrant workers

Maximum tolerance for protesters but...

No permit, no rally

Foreign protesters

Task Force Maxid

P500-M Cebu convention center formally opens

Palace: Gov't has no choice on Smith till end of judicial process

Romulo-Kenney meeting

RP committed to VFA

On military mission

Tantamount to setting free

'Lawyering for US Embassy'



Refrigerator

24 gives ₱ 3,976.90



Car

48 gives P15,799.00



Home

300 gives P10,185.00*

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SPORTS

Rowers' 5th place best by RP athletes

Sports Editor



DOHA 2006

More sports and Asian Games stories on A19 to 30

Tigers hard work finally bears fruit; Barakos up

Aplus Metro

'3G' trains to serve LRTA riders Dec. 11

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BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK

Makati students return to school on Monday

By Tara V. Quismundo

[illegible]

Gov't cares little for flood victims

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo



[illegible]

Clean air campaign launched by DENR

[illegible]

DID YOU KNOW

[illegible]

METROBRIEFS

Fake paint cans

[illegible]

RM Class '76 reunion

[illegible]

17 families lose homes in Marikina compound

[illegible]

OSG lawyer, son shot dead

[illegible]

'3G' trains to serve LRTA riders ...

[illegible]

SO THAT ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS CONCERNED AND THE PUBLIC MAY KNOW

[illegible]

Santa cops make sure malls safe for Yule shoppers

By Jocelyn R. Uy

ABOUT A HUNDRED POLICEMEN IN THE country's financial capital played Santa yesterday, mingling with shoppers in different malls to make sure that the naughty—pickpockets, snatchers and thieves—would stay away from the nice.

Makati police chief Supt. Gilbert Cruz said the "Santa cops" program was a precautionary measure against untoward incidents that might occur during the Christmas season.

At the program launching yesterday, four policemen clad in Santa's red suit and white beard gave away bags of candies to children inside a mall. They also had a gift for parents: about 500 DVDs containing a documentary on the different modus operandi used by criminals to victimize shoppers.

"We are doing this because we want to spread the spirit of Christmas and the value of giving," Cruz told the Inquirer yesterday.

Cruz said Santa cops will be deployed in 18 malls in Makati City to ensure the safety of the public. Six policemen manning the police assistance centers set up in these commercial establishments will augment the "Christmas Cops."

Each mall will have four policemen wearing full Santa suits. They will be backed up by 28 others sporting Santa hats, said Chief Insp. Manny Santos, Makati's chief of the Investigation and Intelligence Division.

"We are launching this program so we can closely monitor criminal elements and properly protect and secure people expected to troop to the malls at this time," said Supt. Nic Lauron, deputy chief police.

Cruz launched the same project in San Juan in 1998, when he was still its police chief. He said the project helped significantly in preventing crimes and untoward incidents in commercial establishments during the holidays.

"It is a good thing that they are doing this. We feel safer," said Aida Andrada, 38, who brought his daughter to the mall yesterday.

The National Capital Region Police Office, meanwhile, also launched its Task Group Motorized Anti-Street Crimes Operations, composed of 200 policemen who would be patrolling the metropolis' busy streets on their brand new motorcycles.

"But the task force is not intended only for this Christmas season. It will be a permanent group helping our SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) team and mobile patrolmen deter street crimes," said Senior Supt. Aplonio Gaa Jr., chief of the NCRPO community relations division.

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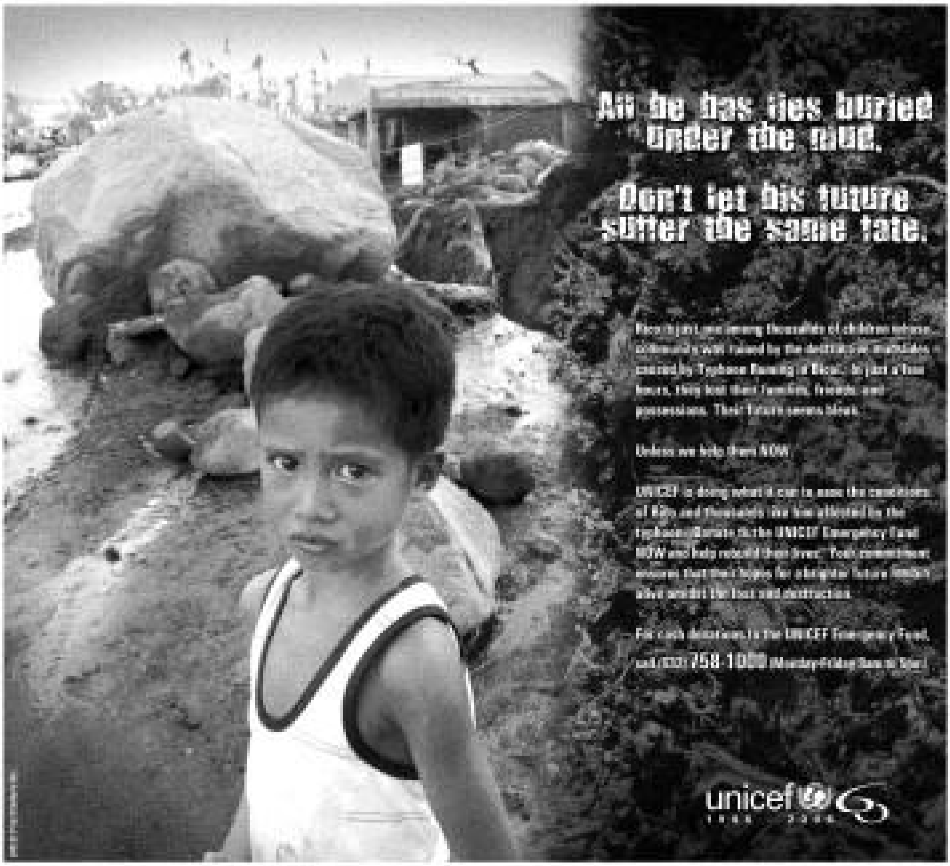
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The WORLD
Venezuela's Chavez vows socialism launch
5 Marines face raps for killings
Indonesia to widen polygamy ban
Bin Laden more symbol than threat, says Gates
CONTRARY TO POPULAR BELIEF, BEING THE MOST-READ PAPER DOESN'T MAKE US SPECIAL.
INQUIRER



Another tsunami could hit Indonesia, experts say

Cubans kept in the dark about Castro's condition

World's wealth concentrated in few



Chile's Pinochet recovering

4,000-year-old doctor's mummy found in Egypt

Discovery prepares for blast-off

The WORLD

Fiji military rounds up coup opponents

SUVA—ARMED SOLDIERS FLEW DEPOSED FIJI Prime Minister Laisenia Qarase out of the capital Suva on Wednesday as the military began rounding up opponents of its takeover and declared a state of emergency.



CARETAKER Prime Minister Jona Senilagakali holds a bible and reads the Oath of Office at his swearing-in ceremony in the officer's mess at Queen Elizabeth Barracks in the nation's capital Suva Dec. 6.

Iraqi PM calls for peace talks

US not winning in Iraq, says defense nominee Gates



GATES



SPACE FEEDING FRENZY. This artist's concept shows a supermassive black hole at the center of a remote galaxy digesting the remnants of a star.

Black hole caught gulping remote star

Paris talks fail to reach deal on Iran sanctions

Russia won't extradite possible suspects in spy case to Britain

15TH ASIAN GAMES DOHA 2006

SPORTS

Editor: Teodoro S. Melendres



Cue artists start drive

By Ted S. Melendres, Sports Editor

DOHA, QATAR—THE FINEST AVAILABLE BILLIARDS TALENTS the country could cough up for the 15th Asian Games join two boxers in the medal hunt today as the Philippines tries to arrest its sagging fortunes seven days into the quadrennial competition.

For a change, World Pool sparkplug Jeffrey De Luna, San Miguel Asian Tour top winner Antonio Gabica and the veteran Leonardo Andam set out as among the fa- vorites in the men's 9-ball and 8-ball events following the Filipinos' forgettable performances in snooker and English billiards.

CUE, A18

RP SKED

Dec. 7

Losing Your Hair Can Make You Ten Years Older



Nothing tears down a man's confidence more than being mistakenly thought of as the bald father of his wife, or worse, the husband of his mom. The depression you get over your hair can add up to make you feel years older. Svenson's Cosmetic Thresdermal Reconstruction means real hair. Quickly and effectively it restores your full head of hair and becomes a natural part of you. You can swim with it, play golf and do other activities with total confidence.

To end your hairloss worries, call Svenson now for a free consultation.

Svenson

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600 LOTS

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"NO MINIMUM PRICE"

1 DAY AUCTION!

DEC. 13, 2006

SALE START AT 9:30 A.M. SHARP



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The Tribute 3.0L Limited Edition SRP is P1.39M. Visit the Mazda dealer nearest you.

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Payla, Marcial gun for medals today



PAYLA

Mu shatters world snatch lift standard



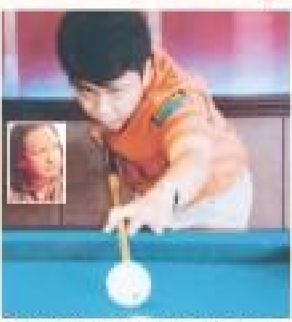
Cue artists start drive

Between chances

Tenpin bowlers

No need to panic—Ramirez

Billiards squad good for gold



Spring vs Osmeña-Cebu as NBC playoffs begin

SPORTSWATCH



Sista shoots for solo 2nd vs C. Lhuillier

Nike Golf Pacsports surges ahead



Sta. Lucia Tour Luzon leg blasts off



Jinggoy asks MVP for SBP presidency

IN HUDDLE



Beth Celis



Japan, China hike gold haul

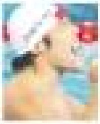


Top NBA scout to Asian cagers: Stop being nice



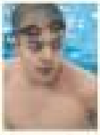
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Japan holds off Chinese relay squad



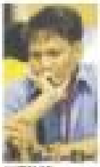
HOSOKAWA

A 'butterfly' rises from the bloodshed



ALI

Antonio bags 2nd place in Michigan tilt



ANTONIO

Dandan, Barte gain ITF Junior quarters

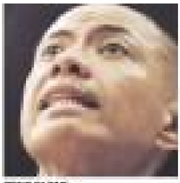


NEARLY P6 MILLION

Barako, Pals draw stiff fines

FINES AMOUNTING TO P567,600 WERE METED OUT yesterday by PBA Commissioner Noli Eala, who warned that "child-like" acts on court will be dealt with severely in the future.





Tams, Bombers cop semis seats

Bautista arrives, readies for Bohol homecoming



World Cup: 3 WBO title fights



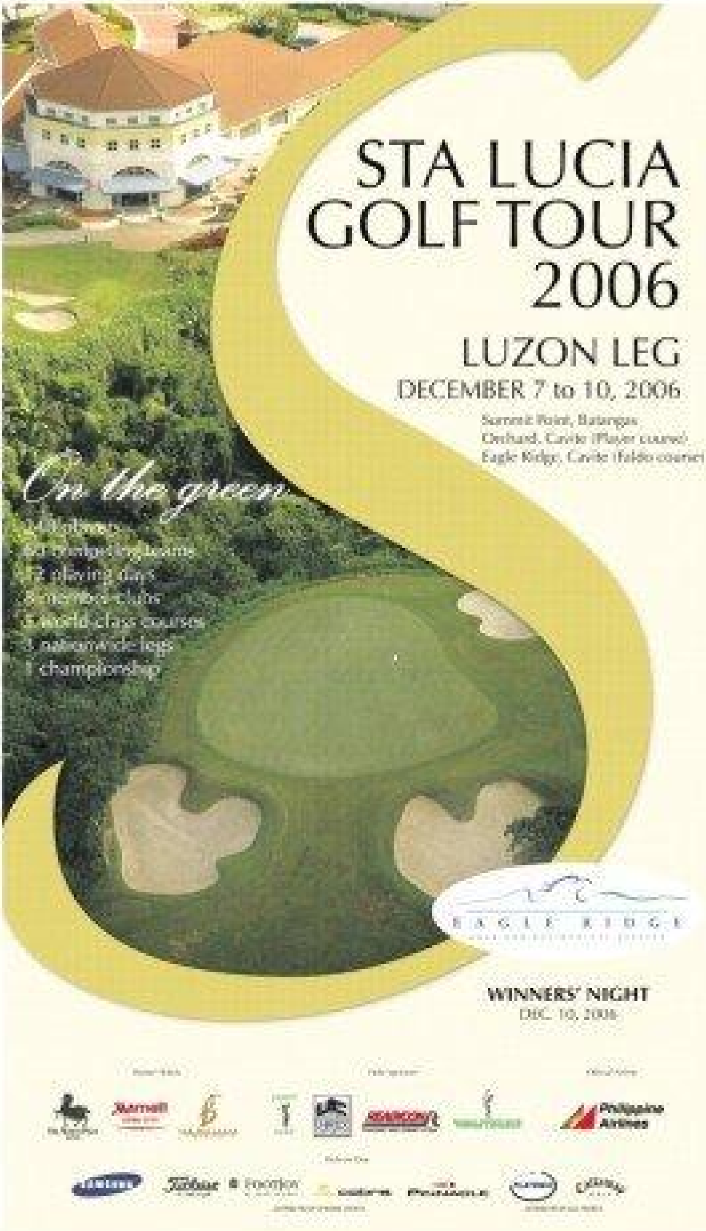


Mavs, Suns shine





Trail Blazers upset Pistons; Rockets soar behind T-Mac



IN THIS ISSUE

- **Breaktime:** Tech message /B2
- **Asean drops** plan to adopt single currency /B6

BUSINESS



Cebu to build ₱5-B 'trans-axial' highway

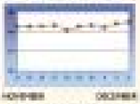
Malaysia's UEM Group keen on project

CEBU CITY—CEBU IS SHOWCASING ITS ABILITY TO host a global media event to try and attract foreign investors by announcing that it will soon embark on the construction of a P5-billion "trans-axial" highway.

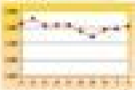


Food security laid on Asean table

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET



Shares close 0.37% lower

DMCI group wants to settle Maynilad's $300-M debt

Peso hits new 4½-yr high





Make Every Day Exciting

Tech message

BREAKTIME



Conrado R. Banal III

[illegible]

MAKE YOUR ₱ GROW

Looking after you

Bank of Commerce

SMC sells 49% stake in Vietnam venture

[illegible]

DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION FOR NEGOTIATED OFFER

[illegible]

ASSET MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Philippine Stock Exchange

[illegible]

Exchange Rates

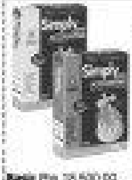
[illegible]

HGC to issue ₱6B worth of zero coupon bonds

Guaranty firm completes ₱12-B borrowing program

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Our country offers a diverse array of breathtaking sights. With almost every destination a mere hour away by plane, Filipinos are indeed faced with a lot of choices when planning their vacations.

With the new Asian Spirit East West Bank MasterCard, exploring our country's vacation sights from north to south is made more affordable. Cardholders enjoy a straight 20% discount on all Asian Spirit domestic regular or promo fares, whether purchased from any Asian Spirit ticket office nationwide or booked through the reservations hotline at 855-3333 using their card. Cardholders also enjoy the lowest fare possible whenever Super Saver Fares is available on certain domestic flights even when the seat quota restriction is already full provided that the flight is not fully booked.

Waiting and queuing at the airport can now be avoided because Asian Spirit East West Bank MasterCard cardholders are given priority when checking-in at any Asian Spirit airport counter nationwide.

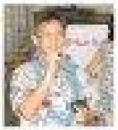
On top of all these unique benefits, cardholders also enjoy a Rewards Program that gives them 1 Rewards point for every P50 spend. Points can be used to redeem vacation-related items, FREE Asian Spirit tickets and special Asian Spirit vacation packages. A vacation perks program has also been designed for cardholders to enjoy perks and discounts on room rates and meals from partner resorts and establishments in Boracay and other popular Asian Spirit vacation destinations when they use their card. Plus, with MasterCard's worldwide acceptance, shopping with your Asian Spirit East West Bank MasterCard has become easy and convenient with over 29 million establishments here and abroad.

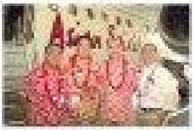
Executives and staff of Asian Spirit, East West Bank and MasterCard Worldwide gathered last September to commemorate their partnership.



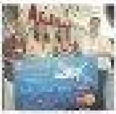














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Apply now! Call 888-1700 or visit www.eastwestbanker.com

Asian Spirit

EASTWESTBANK

Business

Asean drops plan to adopt single currency

Financial integration takes back seat in Cebu summit

By Daxim L. Lucas

Gov't to bid out Magat power plant on Dec. 14

OFWs tapped for development of new industries

By Abigail L. Ho



THE GOAL is to create a network of OFWs who could provide their market knowledge and expertise to support new service industries, says ECCP

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Exxon Mobil to drill for oil in southern RP

Republic of the Philippines
ZAMBOANGA CITY WATER DISTRICT

SECTION I. INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Banks face risk management woes

By Doris C. Dumlao



TETANGCO



LIFESTYLE

Editor: Chelo Banal-Formoso

Gifts of flavor to savor

Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes
Photos by [illegible]

'TIS THE SEASON TO BE generous once again. And food is usually one of the most welcome gifts at Christmas.

While some gifts may be fun or boring, like a bar of orange-colored soap or a decorative candle, there is no present as perfect as a decadent chocolate cake drizzled in caramel syrup to bring a holiday meal to a memorable close.

There are home-based bakers and skilled cooks who make exceptional goodies just for the gift-giving season. They trim and garnish their holiday treats to make them truly special holiday presents.

Here are some suggestions that will undoubtedly bring good cheer to any recipient.

Be sure to include some or all of them on your list and don't forget to get some for yourself, too!

E-mail the author at [illegible]@inquirer.com.ph.



MEXICAN Trifle, [illegible] whipped cream, P1,400

Definitely dessert-ified

ROSSAN SAMSON, 35, offers several baked goodies available all year round. Though she has no formal training, her love for baking has resulted in a growing number of local customers. She experiments regularly and keeps adding to her list of treats.

Homemade by Rossan's [illegible] list includes Oreo Mud Cake, chocolate cake with Oreo filling and frosting; Prince Albert Cake, a rich combination of chocolate cake, honey crunch and coffee whipped cream; and Javanka Fudge Walnut Torte, chocolate ganache in between three layers of walnut meringue covered with espresso cream.

Call [illegible]; mobile [illegible].



ANGELS Treasure Chest, hamper filled with Food for the Gods, Fudge Walnut Brownies and a dozen of your choice of cookies (Ghirardelli Chocolate Chip cookies, Belgian Chocolate Chunk cookies, Nutella Chocolate Chip cookies and Chewy Oatmeal Raisin Walnut cookies) for P1,2[illegible]

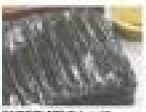


DECADENT Chocolate Fudge Mini Cakes with sugar rim, perfectly piped fudge icing and studded with sugar dots for that colorful festive touch, P[illegible]/24 pcs

Frozen delights



A COOL concoction of ice cream, chewy "pastillas," graham crackers and meringue for an utterly delicious Frozen Brazo de Mercedes. Size: 9"x5," P[illegible]



CHOCOLATE Cake with Caramel Sauce, a dessert good enough for the festive holiday spread. Sizes: 9"x9," P[illegible]; 13" x 9," P[illegible]



BANANA and caramel lovers go gaga over this Frozen Choco Banana. Size: 9"x9," P[illegible]

SHY AND UNASSUMING Daisy Cosuco has been dishing out baked goodies since she was six. Not formally trained, she learned to bake and cook from generations of good cooks in the family.

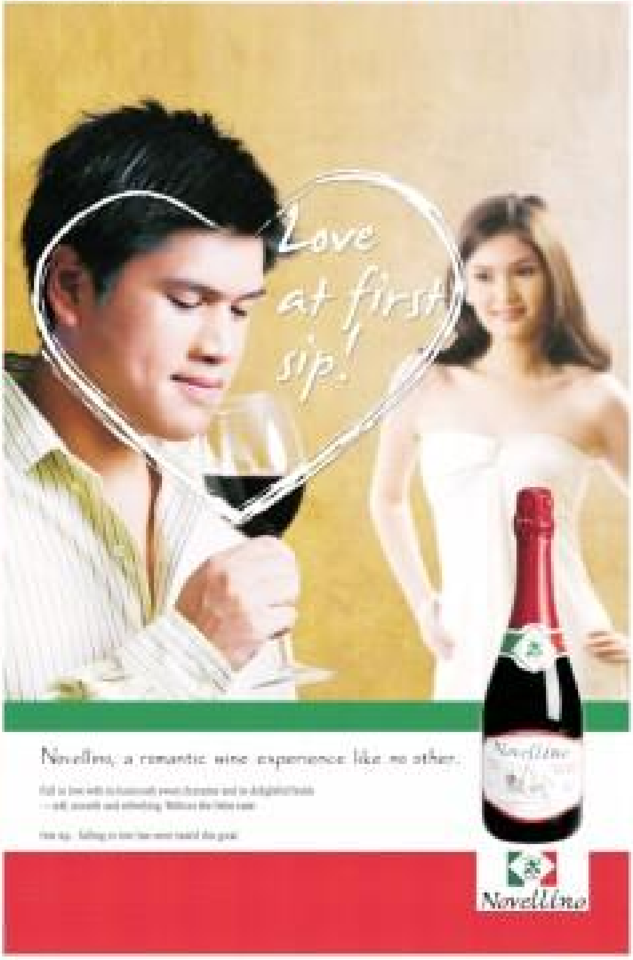
Her passion for baking results in an impressive list of [illegible] goodies and mouthwatering cakes that, by word of mouth, have become popular.

Her [illegible] cake ([illegible]) is a bestseller. Her regular clients include the Madrigals, Cojuangcos, Reyes, Concepcion, Arroyos, Lagdameos, Panlilios.

Her dream is to produce enough to supply stores in the metropolis so that more people will get to enjoy her sweets.

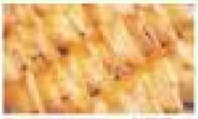
Call [illegible] (Makati, look for [illegible]); [illegible] (Alabang, look for [illegible]).















Patties, pastries and pastas

Cream of the puff





Gifts of flavor to savor

French favorites





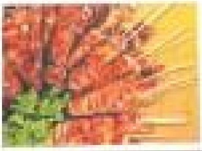




Award-winning fruitcakes







Hassle-free partying

Christmas baskets





SPECIAL HOLIDAY HAM

COUNTRY COOKING

Micky Fenix

Gifts of Christmas past



THE FORMAL generation in their Christmas best



THE LESS formal generation pose on Christmas eve.

> Among past gifts my siblings and I never forgot was a gift basket for my father. Through the cellophane cover we could see Spanish goodies we haven't tasted before

Multitasking mom

Rare treasures

Traditional sweets

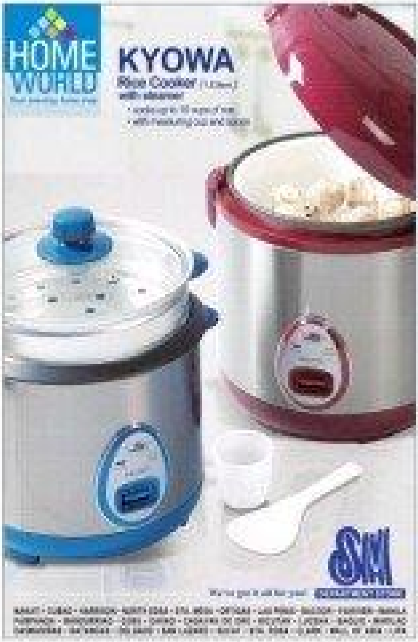
Holiday recipes

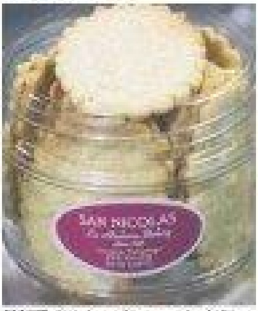


COCO BAGOONG











Pampanga goodies now in Metro



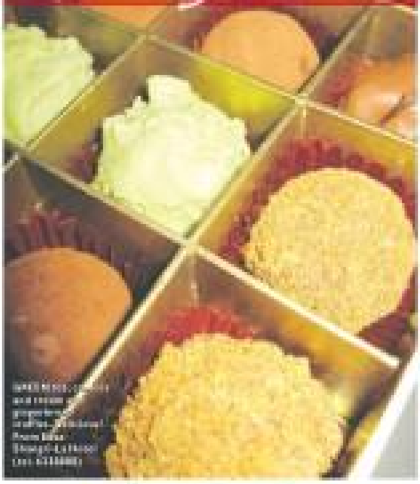




Buy it and cook it



LIFESTYLE





KITCHEN RESCUE
Reggie Aspiras

My favorite things to eat for Christmas

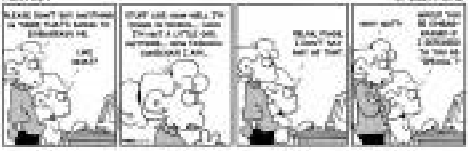
IT'S ALMOST CHRISTMAS! what better way to celebrate than to load those hips with sweets and treats? From treats in a jar to items that remind you of Mom to desserts just flown in from a French pastry shop in Ginza, Tokyo to chocolate cakes truffles and pralines all new for this season—I can go on and on.



JUST in from the Henri Charpentier Pastry Shop in Ginza ... pistachio, raspberry and orange. ... The packaging is beautiful and, if you wish, ... Madeleines and Financiers. ... from Japan. ... everything! By reservation only at the Diamond Hotel (tel. 5263000).





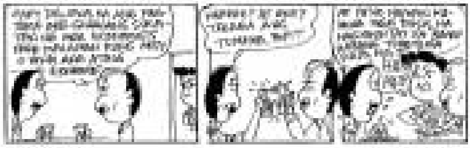


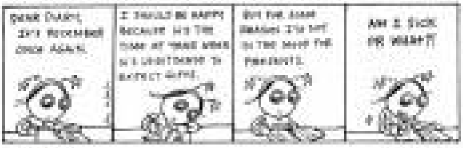






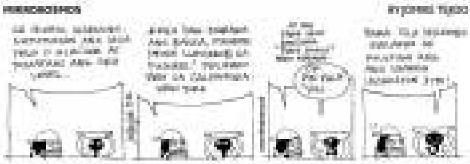




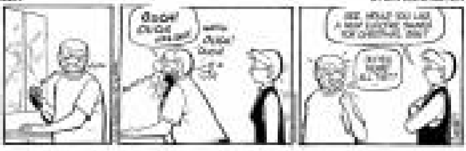












DAILY CROSSWORD

HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku — by Dave Green

7								4
			3		2			
		3	9	6		5		
	8					7	6	
		7				3		
	2	4					1	
		1		4	3	9		
			7		8			
4								6

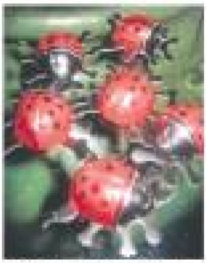
Difficulty Level ★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

My favorite things to eat for Christmas









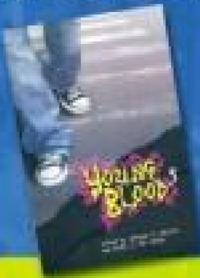








BE THERE FOR THE NEW BLOOD.



The long wait is over as the hottest local anthology returns. Youngblood[3] is in the house, loaded with the best essays from 1999 to 2004 in the most concentrated Youngblood package yet. This is the Filipino youth at their most honest and most eloquent. Here are the essays that matter from the newspaper that started it all. Youngblood[3] is the young Filipino - unplugged.

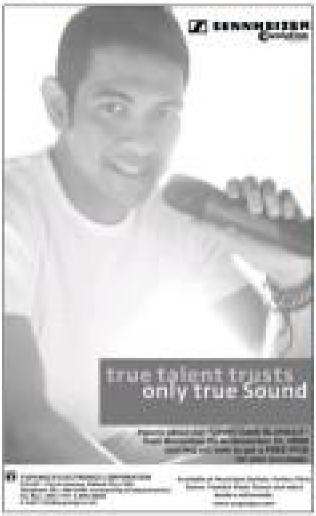
YOUNGBLOOD[3]

DECEMBER 9 2006

Dare to ask. Be an Inquirer.

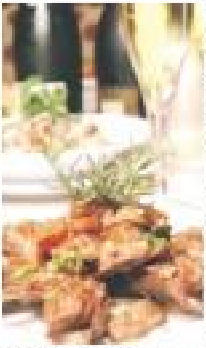
INQUIRER books





Family togetherness

DINING-OUT



RESTAURANT 5 offers a complimentary brunch buffet for one person, for every group of five paying guests. The buffet is priced at P795 per person. Sunday Brunch is available every Sunday, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Restaurant 5 is on the 5/F of Discovery Suites, 25 ADB Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig. Call 6838222 and [illegible].

BANGUS SPECIALTY RESTAURANT celebrates Pinoy family togetherness during meals with Bahay Kubo. Families can enjoy generous portions of all-time favorites, such as Pako Bulalo Soup, Relleno Bangus, Lumpiang Ubod, Daing na Bangus, Grilled Bangus Belly with Tomato Sauce, Green and Ripe Mango Salad with Bagoong. For dessert, they can have Special Turon or Bangus and wash it down with bottled Sago at Gulaman. Call Bangus Greenbelt at 7563838, 7578193, Bangus Galleria 6330481 and Bangus SM Mall of Asia 5565506. Visit www.bangusspecialty.com or e-mail bangusspecialty@yahoo.com.

PEKING Garden offers 20-percent discount on its Peking duck from until Dec. 18. The special is good for dine-in and take-out orders only (call advance and reserved). The restaurant (Glorietta 2, Ayala Center, Makati) also offers various special set menus.

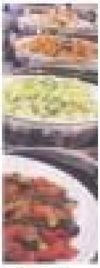
KOREANA Restaurant serves special Korean dishes, such as Bulgogi, Japchae (Korean transparent noodles) and Beef Stew. Also on the menu are charcoal-grilled "Dak Bulgogi" (chicken barbecue), Galbi (beef barbecue), and Samgyeopsal (pork barbecue). Appetizers and desserts are free. Koreana also has a seafood and sushi bar. Located at Westgate Center, Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City, Koreana is open daily 11 a.m.–10 p.m. Call 7719446.

CAGAYAN presents Power Lunch menu consisting of Cream of Broccoli and Spinach Soup, the Shrimp Bisque with Capsicum Crostini, the Tofu Stir-Fried Salad and the Queso de Bola and Fruit Salad. Main courses include Grilled Tenderloin served with Pesto Mashed Potato, Roast Chicken and Roast Turkey Breasts. For seafood lovers, there's the Cajun-crusted Fillet of Sole and the Prawns Thermidor. Power Lunch menu is available from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Call 527-6368.



LUK YUEN Noodle House offers the Chinese bento sets. There are three sets to choose from: the Chicken bento (with deep-fried chicken, stuffed eggplant, soy noodles, fried rice and sesame balls), the Pork bento (with sweet and sour pork, fried tofu, soy noodles, fried rice and sesame balls), and the Fish bento (lapu-lapu fillet with sauce, spring rolls, soy noodles, fried rice and sesame balls). Priced at P180 each. Luk Yuen has outlets at Glorietta 2, Ayala Center; Cash and Carry near Buendia, Paseo de Magallanes, Alabang Town Center; SM Megamall B; and Greenhills Shopping Center.

DISCOVERY Country Suites' Restaurant Verbena offers a four-day Fixed menu, a six-course country style menu. On the menu are Pan-Roasted Beef Snapper Fillet served with Grilled Tomatoes and Shrimp Broth, Roasted Beef Bourguignon with Butter Vegetables, Deep-Fried White Beans and Potato Purée, and Discovery Suites' own version of Eggs Benedict. The brunch set menu is priced at P950+ per person. Call 4134545 (Tagaytay office) or 6838222 (Manila office).



THE BELLEVUE Hotel presents "Tastes of the World Buffet" until Dec. 9. The buffet is available for lunch and dinner at the Bellevue's Café of Asia Restaurant. You can also order cakes and pastries as special gifts for your loved ones. Call 7718181.



ENTERTAINMENT



TUTTI-FRUTTI

Oh, goody. We took a half-day off to meet these darlings, talented and thrilling performers at the Aquarium by the Manila Bay. We dream ... for a snapshot with the slippery ... and ... really ... Talk about rewards. Story on page E4.

Roars of approval at NU Rock Awards

By Pocholo Concepcion
Contributor

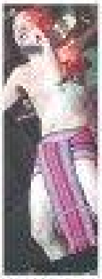
IT LASTED till 3 a.m. with no untoward incidents. For that alone, the 13th NU Rock Awards held on Dec. 1 at Manila World Trade Center deserves commendation.

Describing itself as "the premier rock awards show for Pinoy rockers," the annual event has continued to generate interest and excitement among listeners of NU 107. In the pre-MTV years, the FM station almost single-handedly promoted rock as a commercially viable force in the local music industry.

Amid the awards ceremony's ... of approval and the joyful ... of the live performances, some things could not escape scrutiny.

The Ateneo-bands may be long gone, but three of its four members have never stopped making music. ... Blurbs

TURN TO E4



DONE AWAY turned up in local ... gear.

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Picture-perfect skin can now be a reality with IPL Photorejuvenation Treatment. No other procedure has ever been developed that can accomplish so much with so little risk.

One satisfied client, Janet Ley, relates her happiness with IPL: "I like it. I really like it because after only my second treatment, my freckles are gone!"

IPL Photorejuvenation Treatment helps banish freckles, dark spots, and spider veins without a trace. According to Janet, "I believe my freckles became more prominent as I got older. So whenever I went out of the house, I would use face powder to cover them up. But now I don't use anything anymore because they're all gone! And now people would tell me that I have really nice, flawless skin."



Janet Ley, ... treatment.

IPL is a gentle, non-invasive treatment that uses a broad spectrum of light to treat the face, neck, chest, back, hands and virtually anywhere that sun damage or blemishes show. It uses the Intense Pulsed Light technology to correct a variety of skin conditions and skin imperfections: freckles, skin discoloration, signs of aging, age spots, unsightly spider veins, broken capillaries, rosacea and other blemishes. Facial Care Centre's Dr. Maria Isabelita Joya says, "IPL's amazing results include better skin tone, reduced blackheads, pigmentations and broken blood vessels, smoother surface texture, and a more youthful-looking skin."



Another satisfied client, Dr. Ariel Torres.

To restore an overall youthful look, IPL can simultaneously treat a wide variety of skin concerns safely and effectively. The result: younger-looking skin and a clearer, even complexion. As another satisfied client, Dr. Ariel Torres, would attest: "I'm an avid golfer so I'm very much exposed to the sun. That's how I had freckles. And I've tried every whitening product you can possibly think of: whitening cream, whitening lotion, sunblock, scrub. I even bought this thing from Hong Kong that you're supposed to drink to lighten your skin, nothing! It lightens up your skin for a while but you can't expose yourself to the sun anymore. And for avid players like me, that's totally unthinkable! So when I tried IPL, I was really impressed. Just after the first treatment, there were already visible, dramatic results! IPL is really the only treatment that worked for me."



Like Dr. Torres and Janet Ley, many satisfied clients have reported a reduction in age spots, freckles, and other skin discolorations. Most women who lead active and busy lifestyles are happy with the fact that aside from the visible improvement in their skin, they experience relatively no downtime. This means that one can actually have lovely, even-toned, glowing skin after approximately 30 minutes of treatment, and can go to work on the same day.

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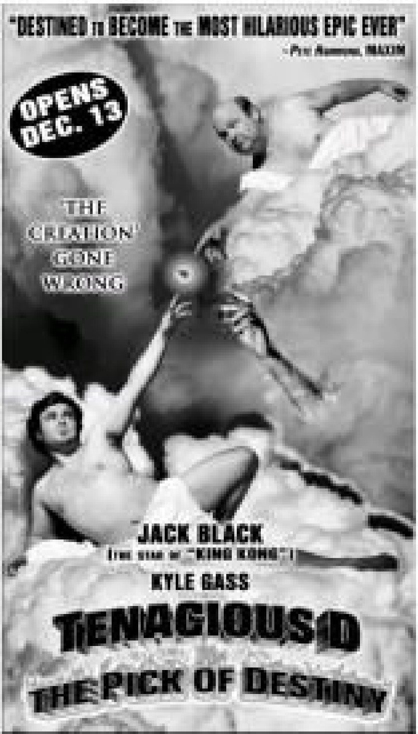
LOS ANGELES—Actor George Clooney's beloved potbelly pig Max has died, he was 19.

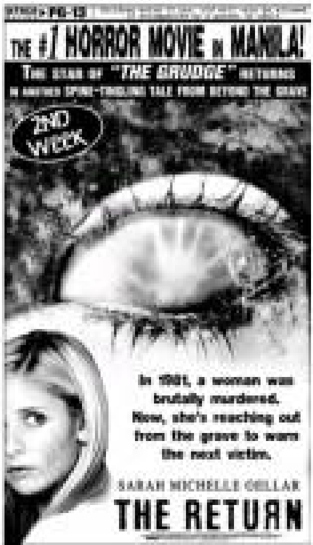
Max, who lived at Clooney's Hollywood Hills home, died "peacefully" of natural causes on Friday, Clooney's publicist, Stan Rosenfield, said by phone Monday.

"Max, like any pet, became a member of the family," Rosenfield said. "He was a big pig, as pigs go. I can't tell you how much he weighed."

The Oscar-winning actor, 45, who owned the pig for 18 years, repeatedly once said the porker was his longest relationship. AP







Did You Know...

NEW YORK—A Texas bookstore owner bought a rare page of working lyrics for Beatle Paul McCartney's song "Maxwell's Silver Hammer" for $152,000 at an auction of rock and pop memorabilia at Christie's on Monday.

Bill Butler also won the bidding for one of rock legend Jimi Hendrix's electric guitars—a 1968 Fender Stratocaster—for $168,000, the guitar's strap for $19,000 and a photograph of Hendrix and band members Noel Redding and Mitch Mitchell framed by two nylon Strats for $5,800. *Reuters*

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Gateway · Ali Mall · Farmers Plaza

Gateway Cineplex 10

THE NATIVITY	A GOOD YEAR	ALL THE KING'S MEN	
INANG YAYA	DECK THE HALLS / THE RETURN	HAPPY FEET	
KAMASUTRA 3	CASINO ROYALE	REYNA	ALL THE KING'S MEN

Ali Mall 5

1	INANG YAYA	2	CASINO ROYALE	3	THE NATIVITY
4	REYNA	5	KAMASUTRA 3		

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Maricel Soriano

Inang Yaya

ALASKA



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G1	1 REYNA	2 THE NATIVITY	3 HAPPY FEET	4 INANG YAYA
G4	1 HAPPY FEET	2 ALL THE KING'S MEN	3 A GOOD YEAR	
	4 BUBAY	5 THE RETURN	6 THE NATIVITY	7 CASINO ROYALE
GB1	1 HAPPY FEET	2 THE NATIVITY		
GB3	1 HAPPY FEET	2 THE NATIVITY		
	3 ALL THE KING'S MEN	4 A GOOD YEAR	5 CASINO ROYALE	
ATC	1 THE NATIVITY	2 A GOOD YEAR		
	3 HAPPY FEET	4 DECK THE HALLS	5 CASINO ROYALE	
ACC	1 THE NATIVITY	2 HAPPY FEET	3 THE RETURN	4 REYNA
M2	1 REYNA	2 THE NATIVITY		
	3 A GOOD YEAR	4 HAPPY FEET	5 INANG YAYA	

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OPENS DECEMBER 13 EXCLUSIVELY AT GLORIETTA 4 & GREENBELT 3 CINEMAS



everyone pretend to be normal

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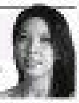


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Dolly Anne Carvajal





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FYI (For Your Intelligence)

Personal



UP DHARMA Down's Armi Millare is Best Female Rock Icon.



DONG ABAY gets some love from the audience.

Blige leads Billboard winners



Roars of approval ...



JETT PANGAN of Dawn



BAMBOO

THE WINNERS





TONY Bennett enjoys a good laugh with Stevie Wonder

Jolly pre-Christmas viewing treat

VIEWFINDER



'Mga Pusang Gala'







Roundup

Thriller

The movie opens Dec. 13 exclusively at Robinsons Galleria Cinema. [illegible]

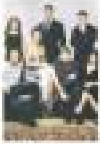


Table for 3

[illegible]

Archive

[illegible] AFP

'Cleopatra'

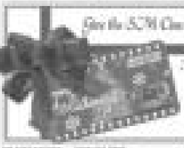
LOS ANGELES—[illegible] AFP

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GALLERIA

1 CASINO ROYALE - THE
2 REYNA
3 HAPPY FEET
4 A GOOD YEAR
5 THE NATIVITY STORY
6 KAMA SUTRA 3
7 BORAT
8 THE RETURN
9 FRAGILE
10 DECK THE HALLS

ERMITA

1 THE NATIVITY STORY
2 REYNA
3 THE RETURN
4 KAMA SUTRA 3
5 A GOOD YEAR
6 HAPPY FEET
7 CASINO ROYALE

METRO EAST

1 THE NATIVITY STORY
2 KAMA SUTRA 3
3 REYNA
4 A GOOD YEAR
5 HAPPY FEET
6 CASINO ROYALE
7 THE RETURN
8 FRAGILE

NOVALICHES

1 CASINO ROYALE
2 A GOOD YEAR
3 REYNA
4 HAPPY FEET

CITISQUARE MALABON

1 MEE-SHEE
2 BAKAL YAYA
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

PIONEER

1 THE NATIVITY STORY
2 REYNA
3 A GOOD YEAR
4 HAPPY FEET



STA. ROSA

1 REYNA
2 THE MARINE
3 ANG PAMANA: THE INHERITANCE
4 HAPPY FEET

LIPA

1 BORAT
2 FEAST
3 REYNA
4 FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS

DASMARINAS

1 REYNA
2 DECK THE HALLS
3 ANG PAMANA: THE INHERITANCE
4 HAPPY FEET

ANGELES

1 REYNA
2 KALELDO
3 BORAT
4 FRAGILE

IMUS

1 REYNA
2 A GOOD YEAR
3 CASINO ROYALE
4 HAPPY FEET

STARMILLS

1 REYNA
2 KALELDO
3 BORAT
4 HAPPY FEET
5 SANTA CLAUSE 3
6 FRAGILE

BACOLOD

1 CASINO ROYALE
2 ANG PAMANA: THE INHERITANCE
3 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
4 BOX
5 HAPPY FEET
6 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

ILOILO

1 REYNA
2 HAPPY FEET
3 SANTA CLAUSE 3
4 THE NATIVITY STORY



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A Pre-Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

A Jumbo Jello Tutti Frutti moment

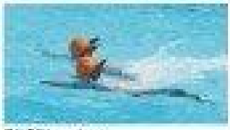




HULA hoop dancing, with a little help from their trainers



A TREAT for any



TANDEM water hoops



JUMBO rolls on a barrel



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SHOWN AT THE VATICAN AND WAS APPLAUDED SIX TIMES DURING THE SCREENING.

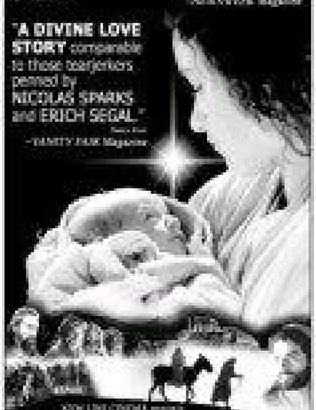
"A GREAT CINEMATIC EVENT."

"This is our answer to the BLASPHEMY [The Da Vinci Code] thrown at our faith..."

"Hooray for Holy-wood...the must-see movie this holiday season. And the unprecedented well-received Vatican premiere is the papal equivalent of TWO THUMBS UP." -TIME Magazine

"I'm not an emotional person, but when I finished watching it ... THE TEARS CAME DOWN MY CHEEK. I COULDN'T SPEAK." -NEWSWEEK Magazine

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